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PCT

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

Applicant's or agent's file reference 70094WOPCT	FOR FURTHER ACTION See Notification of Transmittal of International Preliminary Examination Report (Form PCT/IPEA/416)	
International application No. PCT/US03/19212	International filing date (day/month/year) 17 June 2003 (17.06.2003)	Priority date (day/month/year) 22 June 2002 (22.06.2002)
International Patent Classification (IPC) or national classification and IPC IPC(7): C12N15/11, 15/00, 15/82, 15/87 and US Cl.: 800/294, 312; 536/23.1; 435/419		
Applicant SYNGENTA PARTICIPATIONS AG		

1. This international preliminary examination report has been prepared by this International Preliminary Examining Authority and is transmitted to the applicant according to Article 36.
2. This REPORT consists of a total of 7 sheets, including this cover sheet.

This report is also accompanied by ANNEXES, i.e., sheets of the description, claims and/or drawings which have been amended and are the basis for this report and/or sheets containing rectifications made before this Authority (see Rule 70.16 and Section 607 of the Administrative Instructions under the PCT).

These annexes consist of a total of sheets.
3. This report contains indications relating to the following items:
 - I Basis of the report
 - II Priority
 - III Non-establishment of report with regard to novelty, inventive step and industrial applicability
 - IV Lack of unity of invention
 - V Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement
 - VI Certain documents cited
 - VII Certain defects in the international application
 - VIII Certain observations on the international application

Date of submission of the demand 04 December 2003 (04.12.2003)	Date of completion of this report 20 March 2005 (20.03.2005)
Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450 Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Authorized officer Georgia Helmer  Telephone No. (571) 272-1600

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.

PCT/US03/19212

I. Basis of the report1. With regard to the elements of the international application:^{*} the international application as originally filed. the description:

pages 1-23 as originally filed

pages NONE, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

 the claims:

pages 24-26, as originally filed

pages NONE, as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19

pages NONE, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

 the drawings:

pages 1-4, as originally filed

pages NONE, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

 the sequence listing part of the description:

pages 1-22, as originally filed

pages NONE, filed with the demand

pages NONE, filed with the letter of _____.

2. With regard to the language, all the elements marked above were available or furnished to this Authority in the language in which the international application was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.

These elements were available or furnished to this Authority in the following language _____ which is:

 the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of international search (under Rule 23.1(b)). the language of publication of the international application (under Rule 48.3(b)). the language of the translation furnished for the purposes of international preliminary examination (under Rules 55.2 and/or 55.3).

3. With regard to any nucleotide and/or amino acid sequence disclosed in the international application, the international preliminary examination was carried out on the basis of the sequence listing:

 contained in the international application in printed form. filed together with the international application in computer readable form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in written form. furnished subsequently to this Authority in computer readable form. The statement that the subsequently furnished written sequence listing does not go beyond the disclosure in the international application as filed has been furnished. The statement that the information recorded in computer readable form is identical to the written sequence listing has been furnished.4. The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of: the description, pages none the claims, Nos. none the drawings, sheets/fig none5. This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).^{**}** Replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report since they do not contain amendments (Rules 70.16 and 70.17).**** Any replacement sheet containing such amendments must be referred to under item 1 and annexed to this report.*

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY EXAMINATION REPORT

International application No.
PCT/US03/19212**V. Reasoned statement under Rule 66.2(a)(ii) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement****1. STATEMENT**

Novelty (N)	Claims 2, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 18	YES
	Claims 1, 3-6, 9-11, 15-17, 19-22	NO
Inventive Step (IS)	Claims 2, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14, 18	YES
	Claims 1, 3-6, 9-11, 15-17, 19-22	NO
Industrial Applicability (IA)	Claims 1-22	YES
	Claims NONE	NO

2. CITATIONS AND EXPLANATIONS

Claims 1, 3-6, 9-11, 15-17 and 19-22 lack novelty under PCT Article 33(2) as being anticipated by US 5,959,179 A, issued 28 September 1999. The prior art of US 5,959,179 A teaches a method for transforming soybean comprising (a) preparing an explant from a soybean seed by (i) removing a hypocotyl for the soybean seed, (ii) removing one cotyledon along with its adjacent axillary bud, leaving primary leaves attached to a remain cotyledon, and (iii) removing a portion of a primary leaf from said remaining cotyledon thereby generating a primary leaf base, and (b) cocultivating said explant with Agrobacterium comprising at least one nucleic acid of interest to be incorporated into a genome of one or soybean cells.

Claims 2, 7, 8, 12, 13, 14 and 18 possess novelty under PCT Article 33(2). The prior art of US 5,959,179 A does not teach a method for transforming soybean comprising (a) preparing an explant from a soybean seed by (i) removing a hypocotyl for the soybean seed, (ii) removing one cotyledon along with its adjacent axillary bud, leaving primary leaves attached to a remain cotyledon, and (iii) removing a portion of a primary leaf from said remaining cotyledon thereby generating a primary leaf base, and (b) cocultivating said explant with Agrobacterium comprising at least one nucleic acid of interest to be incorporated into a genome of one or soybean cells, further comprising cultivating at least one formed shoot in a medium containing a selection agent, wherein shoot formation is induced by culturing said primary leaf base in a medium comprising a shoot inducing hormone, wherein induction of shoot formation comprises removing one or more of a primary meristem, and secondary meristem, and an axillary meristem attached to a cotyledon.

Claims 1-22 meet the criteria set out in PCT Article 33(4), and thus possess industrial applicability because the subject matter claimed can be made or used in industry.

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VIII. Certain observations on the international application

The following observations on the clarity of the claims, description, and drawings or on the questions whether the claims are fully supported by the description, are made:

PATENT COOPERATION TREATY

PCT**NOTE OF INFORMAL COMMUNICATION WITH THE APPLICANT**

(PCT Rule 66.6)

International application No.	Applicant's or agent's file reference	Date of informal communication (day/month/year)
PCT/US03/19212	70094WOPCT	18 March 2005 (18.03.2005)
Applicant SYNGENTA PARTICIPATIONS AG		

<u>Communication</u>	<u>Participants</u>	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Identity checked	<input type="checkbox"/> authorization checked	<input type="checkbox"/> personally known
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> by telephone	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Applicant: SYNGENTA PARTICIPATIONS AG			
<input type="checkbox"/> personal	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Agent: Michael Yates			
	<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Examiner(s): Georgia Helmer			

Summary of communication:

Applicant's attorney, Michael Yates, waived the requirement for the 408, and approved the 409.

<input type="checkbox"/> An extension of time limit is granted (Form PCT/IPEA/427).
<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> A copy of this note is being sent to the applicant with Form PCT/IPEA/429.

PCT/IPEA/424. 416 & 409

Name and mailing address of the IPEA/US	Authorized officer
Mail Stop PCT, Attn: IPEA/US Commissioner for Patents P.O. Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450	Georgia Helmer
Facsimile No. (703) 305-3230	Telephone No. (571) 272-1600

J. Roberts for

Form PCT/IPEA/428 (July 1992)